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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.	10/675,713	Applicant(s)	WANG ET AL.
Examiner	Neil R. McLean	Art Unit	2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2008.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/31/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Applicants Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment, filed 1/31/2008, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-28 under Lozano et al. (US 2004/0030809) in view of Kim (US 2003/0128386) have been fully considered and are persuasive.

However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made under Lozano et al. (US 2004/0030809) in view of Kemp et al. (US 7,253,915).

Regarding Applicants Argument:

"Amendment to each of the claims has been made to render more clearly distinctions over the art of record. The amendments clarify that the system includes two, network interconnected, computers, one of which is sharing a locally connected printer.

Information is stored in the client machine which allows its printer driver to see a port, rather than a device. It is submitted that this is removed from the teachings of the art of record."

Examiner's Response:

To add a local printer according to the invention, the user selects Canon Click And Print option 412 in Printers folder 410 by, for example, double clicking on icon 412.

In window 500, the user can input an identifier, such an IP address, of the printer that is to be added in box 503 the user clicks on Add Printer button 502 whereby the Canon Click And Print executable program automatically obtains the necessary printer configuration files and printer driver files, automatically creates a port for communication between the workstation and the printer, automatically installs the printer configuration files and printer driver files on the workstation, and creates an instance of the printer in the windows registry, which is then depicted in Printers folder 410 shown in FIG. 6.

Once the printer has been configured, the port for communication has been created and the driver files have been installed, an instance of the printer is created in the windows registry (step S1209) and the user can submit a print job directly to the printer from the workstation.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lozano et al. (US 2004/0030809) in view of Kemp et al. (US 7,253,915).

Regarding Claim 1:

Lozano et al. teaches a method for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising the steps of: searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine ([0042], lines 1-3) via connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user ([0042], lines 3-7 and step 108 in Figure 1);

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

retrieving a network address, corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user ([0051], lines 1-4 and step 200 in Figure 1);

storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-4 and 202 in Figure 2); and

mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8;), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer ([0044], lines 1-9 and step 300 in Figure 1 and [0051], lines 4-17).

Lozano et al. does not disclose mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kemp et al. discloses mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine (To add a local printer according to the invention, the user selects Canon Click And Print option 412 in Printers folder 410 by, for example, double clicking on icon 412. In window 500, the user can input an identifier, such an IP address, of the printer that is to be added in box 503 the user clicks on Add Printer button 502 whereby the Canon Click And Print executable program automatically obtains the necessary printer configuration files and printer driver files, automatically creates a port for communication between the workstation and the printer, automatically installs the printer configuration files and printer driver files on the workstation, and creates an instance of the printer in the windows registry, which is then depicted in Printers folder 410 shown in FIG. 6. Once the printer has been configured, the port for communication has been created and the driver files have been installed, an instance of the printer is created in the windows registry (step S1209) and the user can submit a print job directly to the printer from the workstation).

Lozano et al. & Kemp et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kemp et al. method of setting a port with Lozano et al's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding Claim 2:

The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from an associated print server ([0050], see program step 700).

Regarding Claim 3:

The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 4:

The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 5:

The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 6:

The method of 5, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 7:

The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step further comprises storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 8:

Lozano et al. teaches a system for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising:

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0042], lines 1-3) adapted for searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0042], lines 3-7) adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user (step 108 in Figure 1);

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0051], lines 1-4) adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user user (step 200 in Figure 1);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0052], lines 1-4) adapted for storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine (202 in Figure 2); and

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0044], lines 1-9; and [0051], lines 4-17) adapted for mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer (step 300 in Figure 1).

Lozano et al. does not disclose mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kemp et al. discloses mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine (To add a local printer according to the invention, the user selects Canon Click And Print option 412 in Printers folder 410 by, for example, double clicking on icon 412. In window 500, the user can input an identifier, such an IP address, of the printer that is to be added in box 503 the user clicks on Add Printer button 502 whereby the Canon Click And Print executable program automatically

obtains the necessary printer configuration files and printer driver files, automatically creates a port for communication between the workstation and the printer, automatically installs the printer configuration files and printer driver files on the workstation, and creates an instance of the printer in the windows registry, which is then depicted in Printers folder 410 shown in FIG. 6. Once the printer has been configured, the port for communication has been created and the driver files have been installed, an instance of the printer is created in the windows registry (step S1209) and the user can submit a print job directly to the printer from the workstation).

Lozano et al. & Kemp et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kemp et al. method of setting a port with Lozano et al's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in claim8.

Regarding Claim 9:

The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for downloading an associated printer driver from a print server ([0050], see program step 700).

Regarding Claim 10:

The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 11:

The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 12:

The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 13:

The system of 12, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 14:

The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 15:

A computer-implemented for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising the steps of:

searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine ([0042], lines 1-3) via a connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

retrieving a network address corresponding to at least one accessible printer selected by a user ([0051], lines 1-4 and step 200 in Figure 1);

storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-4 and 202 in Figure 2); and

mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer ([0044], lines 1-9 and step 300 in Figure 1 and [0051], lines 4-17).

Lozano et al. does not disclose mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kemp et al. discloses mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine (To add a local printer according to the invention, the user selects Canon Click And Print option 412 in Printers folder 410 by, for example, double clicking on icon 412. In window 500, the user can input an identifier, such an IP address, of the printer that is to be added in box 503 the user clicks on Add Printer button 502 whereby the Canon Click And Print executable program automatically obtains the necessary printer configuration files and printer driver files, automatically creates a port for communication between the workstation and the printer, automatically installs the printer configuration files and printer driver files on the workstation, and creates an instance of the printer in the windows registry, which is then depicted in Printers folder 410 shown in FIG. 6. Once the printer has been configured, the port for communication has been created and the driver files have been installed, an instance of the printer is created in the windows registry (step S1209) and the user can submit a print job directly to the printer from the workstation).

Lozano et al. & Kemp et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kemp et al. method of setting a port with Lozano et al's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in claim15.

Regarding Claim 16:

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from a print server ([0050], see program step 700).

Regarding Claim 17:

The computer-implemented method of claim 15 further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 18:

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 19:

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 20:

The computer-implemented method of 19, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internetwork Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 21:

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the storing step further comprises storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible

printer in an internal value table of the client machine([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 22:

A computer-readable medium for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising:

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0042], lines 1-3) adapted for searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via a connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0042], lines 3-7) adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user (step 108 in Figure 1);

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0051], lines 1-4) adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user user (step 200 in Figure 1);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0052], lines 1-4) adapted for storing the network address corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine (202 in Figure 2); and

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0044], lines 1-9; and [0051], lines 4-17) adapted for mapping a port in accordance with the value table(e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer (step 300 in Figure 1).

Lozano et al. does not disclose mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kemp et al. discloses mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine (To add a local printer according to the invention, the user selects Canon Click And Print option 412 in Printers folder 410 by, for example, double clicking on icon 412. In window 500, the user can input an identifier, such an IP address, of the printer that is to be added in box 503 the user clicks on Add Printer button 502 whereby the Canon Click And Print executable program automatically obtains the necessary printer configuration files and printer driver files, automatically creates a port for communication between the workstation and the printer, automatically installs the printer configuration files and printer driver files on the workstation, and creates an instance of the printer in the windows registry, which is then depicted in Printers folder 410 shown in FIG. 6. Once the printer has been configured, the port for communication has been created and the driver files have been installed, an instance of the printer is created in the windows registry (step S1209) and the user can submit a print job directly to the printer from the workstation).

Lozano et al. & Kemp et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kemp et al. method of setting a port with Lozano et al's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in claim22.

Regarding Claim 23:

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for downloading a printer driver from a print server ([0050], see program step 700).

Regarding Claim 24:

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 25:

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 26:

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 27:

The computer-readable medium of 26, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 28:

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Schacht et al. (US 6,959,437) teaches receiving a request addressed to a first IP address from a network-connected computer workstation; supplying a web page from an embedded web server; in response to accessing the web server, causing printer driver software to be supplied to the computer workstation; receiving documents from the computer workstation in accordance with the supplied printer driver software; and, processing the received documents.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neil R. McLean whose telephone number is 571.

270.1679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30AM-5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571.272.7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Neil R. McLean
02/19/2008


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